

105TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 3243

To authorize the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to make grants to State agencies with responsibility for water resource development for the purpose of maximizing available water supply and protecting the environment through the development of alternative water sources.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 12, 1998

Mrs. THURMAN (for herself, Mrs. FOWLER, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. BOYD, Mr. DAVIS of Florida, Mr. DEUTSCH, Mr. FOLEY, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mrs. MEEK of Florida, and Mr. WEXLER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To authorize the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to make grants to State agencies with responsibility for water resource development for the purpose of maximizing available water supply and protecting the environment through the development of alternative water sources.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Alternative Water
3 Source Development Act of 1998”.

4 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

5 In this Act, the following definitions apply:

6 (1) **ALTERNATIVE WATER SOURCE PROJECT.**—

7 The term “alternative water source project” means
8 a project intended to preserve and protect, and
9 maximize use of, existing sources of potable, com-
10 mercial, industrial, or agricultural water by conserv-
11 ing, managing, reclaiming, or reusing water or
12 wastewater.

13 (2) **CRITICAL WATER SUPPLY NEEDS.**—The
14 term “critical water supply needs” means existing
15 water supply that is not projected to meet future de-
16 mand over a 20-year planning period.

17 **SEC. 3. ALTERNATIVE WATER SOURCE DEVELOPMENT PRO-**
18 **GRAM.**

19 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Administrator of the Envi-
20 ronmental Protection Agency shall establish a program
21 under which the Administrator will make grants to State,
22 interstate, and intrastate water resource development
23 agencies (including water management districts and water
24 supply authorities), and local government agencies, that
25 have authority to develop water resources for potable,
26 commercial, industrial, or agricultural uses. The Adminis-

1 trator shall only make a grant under the program to an
2 agency having authority within the boundaries of a State
3 if the State is experiencing critical water supply needs.
4 Such grants shall be for the purpose of assisting such
5 agencies in the development and construction of alter-
6 native water source projects in accordance with this Act.

7 (b) PURPOSES OF PROGRAM.—The Administrator
8 shall carry out the program—

9 (1) to demonstrate methods of developing alter-
10 native water source technologies including methods
11 and applications to conserve, manage, reclaim, and
12 reuse water; and

13 (2) to protect groundwater from overpumping
14 and to preserve minimum flows and levels of surface
15 water bodies.

16 (c) ELIGIBLE AGENCY.—

17 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall only
18 make a grant under this section to an agency de-
19 scribed in subsection (a) if the agency has—

20 (A) engaged in a planning effort to assess
21 the availability of water resources and the need
22 to develop alternative sources and produced a
23 comprehensive water resource plan designed to
24 meet expected water resource needs for a 20-
25 year period;

1 (B) demonstrated that currently available
2 water resources will not be sufficient to provide
3 for expected potable, commercial, industrial,
4 and agricultural needs over the next 20 years;
5 and

6 (C) has agreed to provide 50 percent of the
7 cost of the project to be funded with the grant.

8 (2) LIMITATION.—No agency of a State eligible
9 for assistance or receiving funds under the Reclama-
10 tion Projects Authorization and Adjustment Act of
11 1992 (43 U.S.C. 390h et seq.) shall be eligible for
12 grant assistance under this Act.

13 (d) USES OF GRANT.—Grants made by the Adminis-
14 trator under this section may be used for engineering,
15 planning, design, and construction.

16 (e) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of the cost
17 of activities carried out with grants made under this sec-
18 tion shall be 50 percent.

19 **SEC. 4. REPORTS.**

20 (a) REPORTS TO ADMINISTRATOR.—Each recipient
21 of a grant under section 2 shall submit to the Adminis-
22 trator of the Environmental Protection Agency, not later
23 than 18 months after the date of receipt of the grant and
24 biennially thereafter for the term of the program under

1 this Act, a report on eligible activities carried out by the
2 grant recipient.

3 (b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—On or before the last
4 day of the fifth fiscal year beginning after the date of the
5 enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall transmit
6 to Congress a report on the results of the program con-
7 ducted under this Act, together with an analysis on the
8 extent to which the purposes described in section 2(b) have
9 been realized and recommendations for appropriate ad-
10 ministrative and legislative actions.

11 **SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

12 There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out
13 this Act \$50,000,000 per fiscal year for each of the first
14 5 fiscal years beginning after the date of the enactment
15 of this Act. Such sums shall remain available until ex-
16 pended.

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